Applicant traverses the objection to the drawings. The action indicates that "in Fig. 1, it appears that '115' should be changed to -100-." Enclosed is a copy of Fig. 1 highlighting numeral 100 already present on Fig. 1. Numeral 100 references a contact block assembly. Numeral 115 references components of the contact block assembly, not including the housing.

The serial numbers of the patents referred to on the first page of the Specification are added by this amendment.

Applicant traverses the objection to the disclosure. Figs. 6 and 7 illustrate the contact portions 152 and 157 of the lower stationary contact 102,103. The movable contact is in the lowermost position in both views. For clarity the upper contacts 110 and 112 are not shown. If they were shown, then they would spaced above the movable contact in both Figs. 6 and 7 so that such a second movable contact would be in a normally open relationship with respect to the upper stationary contacts. Figs. 6 and 7 illustrate that the movable contact illustrated will not make contact with the lower stationary contacts if it is mounted incorrectly, as shown in Fig. 6, but will make electrical contact if mounted correctly as shown in Fig. 7. Similar results would follow with respect to upper stationary contacts. However, the pusher would be in a raised position from that shown in both Figs. 6 and 7. In such an embodiment, the movable contact would be correctly installed in (Fig. 6) relative to the upper stationary contact but incorrectly installed relative to lower stationary contact. Thus, to determine corrected installation, consideration is given to whether

the ultimat switch is to be normally open or normally closed. In the illustrated embodiment, the manufacturer would know if the lower stationary contacts were intended to be normally open or normally closed and thus what the position of the movable contact should be in a rest state and in an actuated state so that the simple test referenced at page 12, lines 8-16 would determine if the movable contact is corrected installed relative to a particular set of stationary contacts.

Applicant notes the objection to claim 4. Claim 4, which is rewritten herein, is corrected.

Applicant traverses the objection to claim 17. Claim 17 identifies the various "means" with an adjective, i.e., "recess". However, a function is provided for the various means, except the body portion, which is amended herein. It is not required that a function be specified preceding the word "means". The function can be and is recited following the word "means".

For the above reasons, the above-referenced objections should now be withdrawn.

As noted above, allowable claim 4 is rewritten in independent form. Claim 5 is amended to depend from claim 4. Claims 4 and 5 should now be allowed. Objected to claim 6 is rewritten in independent form so that it and dependent claims 7 and 8 should now be allowed. Claims 2 and 3 are cancelled by this amendment so that the rejection of the same is moot.

Applicant trav rs s th rejection of claims 1, 9, 10 and 14 as anticipated by Reguant Soler U.S. Patent No. 4,477,703.

Independent claim 1 specifies a pusher assembly for use in a contact assembly. The pusher assembly comprises a body portion having an open top end defining an interior recess. A first window is formed in the body portion. A second window is formed in the body portion adjacent to the first window. The second window is larger than the first window to define a shoulder. A spring is received in the recess through the top end. A movable contact is position within the second window captured between the spring and the shoulder.

Reguant Soler does not disclose or suggest a body portion having an open top end defining a recess or a spring received in the recess through the top end. Instead, Reguant Soler discloses a bar having a groove 12a receiving a spring 9a and movable contact 11. As such, the spring 9a must be placed in the groove and compressed in order for the movable contact 11 to be received therein. According to the claimed invention, the spring is inserted through the top end. This structure does not require that the string be compressed in order to install the spring and movable contact.

Anticipation can be established only by a single prior art reference teaching each and every element of the claim, ranges in the claim. Reguant Soler does not anticipate claim 1. Nor would claim 1 be obvious over Reguant Soler.

For the abov reasons, claim 1 is believed allowable and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Independent claim 9 specifies a pusher assembly for use in a contact block assembly. The pusher assembly comprises a body portion extending from a first end to a second end. A first window extends through side walls in the body portion for receiving the movable contact in a first position. A second window extends through the side walls in the body portion. The second window is larger than the first window to retain the movable contact when moved to a second position. A recess is formed through the first end of the body portion. The first window and the second window receive a spring. A movable contact is positioned within the second window.

Reguant Soler does not disclose or suggest a recess formed through the first end of the body portion. Instead, Reguant Soler disclose a groove in the side wall of a bar. The groove is not a recess through any end of the body portion. Indeed, the groove is entirely spaced from both ends of the bar. Moreover, Reguant Soler does not disclose or suggest that the indicated first window of the groove receives the movable contact in any position. Instead, Reguant Soler only disclose that the movable contact is installed in the second window.

For the above reasons, claim 9 and its dependent claims 10 and 14 are believed allowable and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

For the above reasons, claims 1, 9, 10 and 14 are believed allowable and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Applicant traverses the rejection of claim 17 as anticipated by Reguant Soler. Claim 17 specifies a pusher assembly comprising a body portion. A recess means is formed in the body portion for receiving a spring through an open top end of the body portion. A first window means is formed in the body portion for receiving a movable contact. A second window is formed in the body portion for retaining the movable contact.

Claim 17 is not anticipated for the same reasons discussed above relative to claim 9. Particularly, Reguant Soler do not disclose or suggest any recess means formed in the bar for receiving a spring through an open top end of the bar. There is no open end of the bar for receiving a spring. The groove is spaced from both ends of the bar. Moreover, there is no first window means formed in the bar for receiving a movable contact.

For the above reasons, claim 17 is not anticipated and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 18-32 as anticipated by Ikeda U.S. Patent No. 4,634,819.

Claim 18 specifies a method for assembling a pusher assembly. The method comprising the steps of inserting a movable contact into a first window through a pusher; moving the movable contact to a second window through the pusher; and rotating the movable contact to a second position within the second window.

Initially, Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of the opposite sides of the contact holder as a window. Nevertheless, to clarify this distinction, claim 18 is amended to specify that the first window and the second window are each "through" the pusher. As such, Ikeda does not disclose inserting the movable contact into a first position in a first window through the pusher and then moving the movable contact to a second window through the pusher and then rotating the movable contact to a second position within the second window. Instead, Ikeda discloses a single motion sliding the movable contact through a window while also raising a distal end of the contact. This method implemented by Ikeda is substantially different from that recited by independent claim 18. Therefore, claim 18 and its dependent claims 19-24 are not anticipated.

Independent claim 25 specifies a method for assembling a pusher assembly comprising positioning a movable contact in a first orientation; inserting the movable contact into a first window of a pusher in the first orientation, moving the movable contact into a second window of the pusher by depressing a spring; and rotating the movable contact to a second orientation within the second window. Ikeda does not disclose or suggest moving a movable contact into a second window by depressing a spring. Nor does it disclose or suggest rotating a movable contact into a second window by depressing a spring. Nor does it disclose or suggest rotating a movable contact to a second orientation within a second window. There is only a

single window shown in Ik da. Therefore, claim 25 and its dependent claims 26-29 are not anticipated.

Claim 30 specifies a method for assembling a pusher assembly comprising inserting a movable contact into a first window of a pusher in a substantially vertical orientation; moving the movable contact to the second window of the pusher by depressing a spring; rotating the movable contact to a substantially horizontal orientation within the second window; releasing the movable contact to a static position within the second window; and retaining the movable contact within the second window with a spring.

Ikeda does not disclose or suggest inserting a movable contact into a first window of a pusher in a substantially vertical orientation. Ikeda discloses that the movable contact is in a substantially horizontal, albeit angled orientation. There is no embodiment of Ikeda that illustrates the movable contact in a vertical orientation. In fact, if it were positioned in a vertical orientation, in any manner, the movable contact could not be inserted in the contact holder. The device would be inoperable. Therefore, claim 30 and its dependent claims 31 and 32 are believed allowable.

For the above reasons, claims 18-32 are believed allowable and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Applicant notes the allowability of claims 11-13. However, because claim 9 from which they depend is also believed allowable, these claims are not rewritten in independent form at this time.

Reconsideration of the application, allowance and passage to issue are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ,
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MARKED UP VERSION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

The present U.S. patent application having at least one common inventor as:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.[_____]09/961,155 entitled "System and Method for Auxiliary Contact Assembly" [(2001P17284 US)], and

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.[_____]09/961,159 entitled "System and Method for Auxiliary Contact Assembly and Snap Mounting" [(2001P17283 US)], and

U.S. Patent Application Serial No.[_____]09/961,162 entitled "System and Method for Mounting a Pusher and Moveable Contact in a Contact Block" [(2001P17288 US)], and

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [_____]09/961,156 entitled "System and Method for Mounting a Moveable Contact in a Contact Block"[(2001P17289 US)], and

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [_____]09/961,158 entitled "Contact Block Assembly and Method of Assembling a Contact Block Assembly", and

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [_____]09/961,160 entitled "Movable Contact and a Method of Assembling a Pusher Assembly having a Movable Contact" [(2001P17281US)], which are filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office concurrently on September 21, 2001, the entirety of each being incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A pusher assembly for use in a contact block assembly, said pusher assembly comprising:

a body portion having an open top end defining an interior recess;

a first window formed in said body portion;

a second window formed in said body portion adjacent to said first window, said second window being [longer] larger than said first window to define a shoulder;

a spring received in the recess through the top end; and

a movable contact positioned within said second window captured between the spring and the shoulder.

4. (Rewritten) [The] A pusher assembly [of claim 3] for use in a contact block assembly, said pusher assembly comprising:

a body portion;

a first window form d in said body portion;

a second window formed in said body portion adjacent to said first window, said second window being larger than said first window; and

a movable contact positioned within said second window,

wherein said first window and said second window are formed in a first portion of said body portion and a recess is formed in said first portion of said body portion, wherein said [a] recess formed in said first portion of said body portion further extends to a second portion of said body portion.

5. (Amended) The pusher assembly of claim [3] 4 further comprising a spring positioned within said recess.

6. (Rewritten) [The] A pusher assembly [of claim 5] for use in a contact block assembly, said pusher assembly comprising:

a body portion;

a first window formed in said body portion;

a second window formed in said body portion adjacent to said first window, said second window being larger than said first window; and

a movable contact positioned within said second window,

wherein said first window and said second window are formed in a first portion of said body portion and a recess is formed in said first portion of said body portion,

and a spring is positioned within said recess and further comprising shoulders between said first window and said second window.

17. (Amended) A pusher assembly comprising:

a body portion [means];

a recess means formed in said body portion [means] for receiving a spring through an open top end of the body portion;

a first window means formed in said body portion [means] for receiving a movable contact;

a second window means formed [is] in said body portion [means] for retaining said movable contact.

18. (Amended) A method for assembling a pusher assembly, said method comprising the steps of :

inserting a movable contact into a first position in a first window [of] through a pusher;

moving said movable contact to a second window [of] through said pusher; and

rotating said movable contact to a second position within said second window.